

REMARKS

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claim 17.

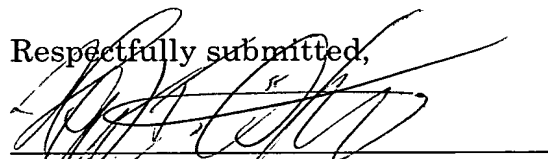
Claim 22 was rejected on various grounds and the remaining claims are non-elected. The Examiner will note that all the claims except for claim 17 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Thus, allowed claim 17 is the only claim remaining in the application. That being the case, an early Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #1830/49264).

May 9, 2003

Respectfully submitted,



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